Indiana Professional Standards Board External Committee for School Counselors

Selections September 26, 2001

Members Present: Charlene Alexander, Brad Balch, Peggy Hines, Tom Keller, Susie Matzat, Lin Metzger, Kay Schrader, Shawn Sriver, Rex Stockton

Member Absent: Mike Horvath, Nellie Moore, Sue Reynolds, Bryan Wright

Others Present: Anne Moudy

The External Committee for School Counselors of the Indiana Professional Standards Board convened at 9:00 a.m. on September 26, 2001, at the Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township Community Building at 1220 South High School Road, Indianapolis.

Peggy Hines called the session to order. Literature reviews, research, and miscellaneous other documents were presented in regard to the teaching experience issue.

Anne Moudy was welcomed as a guest. She introduced herself to the group. Her beliefs, anecdotal comments, and concerns were expressed on the items listed in the committee's charge, especially as they related to teaching experience for school counselors. The committee followed up with comments and discussion.

The adoption of the standards process was reviewed by Shawn Sriver. A sample Likert scale document was distributed to the committee. A similar document will be sent to the sixteen core stake holder groups by Shawn, including ISTA, the Principals Association, and the Superintendents Association. Peggy Hines will forward the document to the counseling entities, including ISCA, IACAC, ICA, and the counseling department chairs of universities with accredited counseling programs. A time line of six weeks for input was set with .a deadline of November 16, 2001, set as a final date for comments. The Likert Scale numbers and comments will be returned to Shawn Sriver, who in turn will bring these back to this committee. The committee will address these and a final set of standards and a short action report will be given to the Standards Board. The action report includes stake holders, comments, revisions made, and additional pertinent information. At that point, the IPSB may vote to officially adopt the standards. It is the hope of this committee to place these standards for adoption on the IPSB January agenda.

Discussion concerning teaching experience recommendation was revisited. The committee consensus was to continue to recommend that no teaching experience be required. It may also be recommended that all counseling students, those with and without teaching experience, be required to fulfill a one-year internship. The field experience will include experiences in all five school settings.

The PreK-12 license was also revisited. It will be the responsibility of the higher education institution to provide experiences at all levels. At this time, the committee will remain with the recommendation of a PreK-12 license.

The committee discussed a recommendation of a minimum of a practicum of 100 hours of which 40 must be direct service and one-year internship of 600 hours of which 240 hours must be direct service. Direct service meaning face-to-face versus administrative duties.

An initial license test was discussed. Praxis II or the NICE are possible tests. It may also provide an accountability factor for the meeting of standards by the higher education institutions. The test would have to reflect the standards. Currently, all teachers have to pass a test and administrators will have to do so by 2003. A test and a cut-off score would have to be passed by the board. It was decided to get several vendors here on December 12, 2001.

The induction piece will be our next focus. Someone from the IPSB, a teacher in residence, and an administrator will be invited to speak about the induction period for teachers and administrators.

A review of the higher education license renewal requirements will also be reviewed in the future. We also need to address the proficient and accomplished practitioner requirements.

October¹s agenda will include writing the rationale for our recommendations on K-12 and the issue of teaching versus non-teaching.

NEXT MEETING: October 24, 2001

LOCATION: 1220 High School Road (Indianapolis)